Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sherry R. Vance, 601.359.3041

Date: December 4, 2002

GOVERNOR MUSGROVE AWARDS FREIGHT RAIL SERVICE PROJECTS LOAN TO LOWNDES COUNTY

JACKSON, Miss. – Governor Ronnie Musgrove recently announced the latest Freight Rail Service Projects Revolving Loan awarded to Lowndes County.

"The state of Mississippi recognizes the efforts of Lowndes County to create a pro-business environment that promotes economic development. This loan demonstrates our commitment to help communities attract jobs and a better way of life for our citizens."

Lowndes County will receive a loan in the amount of \$141,041. The community will utilize the funds for rail crossing improvements.

The Freight Service Projects Revolving Loan program is a part of the Community Services Division of the Mississippi Development Authority. Among the division's goals are assisting communities in analyzing their strengths and weaknesses, involving their leadership in economic development, planning development strategies, strengthening development organizations, and implementing and financing community projects. The Community Services Division also administers other Economic Development grant and loan programs.

###